REMARKS

The claims were objected to for informalities. The claims are canceled without prejudice to reentry and the objection is moot. The new claims are believed to be formal.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under §103 over Simmons '222 in view of Hirai '444. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applicants' Object and Result. The Applicants enable a compact memory card to be used in a device intended for a normal size (longer) memory card, and achieve this result by attaching an adapter to the compact memory card.

The adapter 1 includes a core 3, and a frame metal fitting 2 assembled to the core 3. The frame metal fitting 2 is provided with a pair of holding portions 21, 22 on the opposite ends at an attaching side of the compact memory card 4, and with a hook portion 23 between the holding portions 21, 22 at the attaching side of the compact memory card 4. The adapter 1 is attached to an end of the compact memory card 4 on substantially the same plane as the card 4 to form a dimension including a thickness, a width and a length similar to a normal size memory card.

The References' Objects. The object of Simmons is to provide continuous shielding against distortion of data signals between a PC card and an I/O type connector by accommodating the PC card within a holder. The object of Hirai is to reuse a CF card and a casing by accommodating the CF card in the casing.

Both of these *contain* the card. In contrast, the Applicants' adapter does not contain the card but instead engages an *end* of the card, which is claimed, and which results in a longer card.

Simmons. In Simmons, an upper cover member 16 is mounted on a bottom cover member 12 attached to a frame 14 to define a space for containing a PC card 20 between the members 12 and 16. As shown in Figure 5, Simmons' frame 14 fastens the upper and bottom cover members 16 and 12 to each other. In contrast, the Applicants' claimed adapter couples the frame metal fitting 2 directly to the core 3. In Simmons, the C-shaped holding portion (longitudinal side) 50 of the frame 14 does not clamp the end of the PC card 20 at the upper and

bottom sides. Accordingly, the frame 14 of the holder 10 in Simmons does not correspond to the claimed core 3 of the adapter 1.

The end portion, 56, of the upper cover member 16 of Simmons does not engage the end of the PC card 20. Accordingly, the end portion 56 does not correspond to the hook portion 23 of the frame metal fitting 2 in the Applicants' claims. The other end portion 56 of the upper cover member does not correspond to the caulking projection 24 of the claimed frame metal fitting 2.

Hirai. In the casing 1 of Hirai, a top cover 3 is mounted on a bottom cover plate la to define a space for containing a CF card between the cover 3 and the cover plate la. According to claim 4 of Hirai, insulating layers are applied to the inner surfaces of the top cover 3 and bottom cover plate la so that the parts of the chip-carrier PCB sandwiched between the bottom cover plate la and the top cover 3 are protected from ESD voltages. On the contrary, the Applicants' insulation film is formed either on the periphery or on the whole of the outer surface of the frame metal fitting 2 to prevent a short-circuit accident, even if the adapter 1 happens to contact the connector 50 (see Figure 28) . Accordingly, there is a difference not only in purpose but in structgure of the prior-art insulation film and the claimed insulation film.

Structures Are Not Disclosed. An in-turned grounding tab 46, shown in Figure 6 in Simmons, serves to prevent the PC card 20 from moving upwardly by means of spring action and also grounds the card 20; this grounding tab 46 does not correspond to the claimed centering boss portion 25, as it performs no centering. The end portion 70 of the grounding tab 46, shown in Simmons' Figure 6, merely pushes the PC card 20 onto the frame 14. Since the holder in Simmons lacks the Applicants' claimed holding portions 21 and 22, the end portion 70 is not pertinent to the claimed holding portions.

According to Claim 4 of Simmons, rails 30 include a plurality of recesses 64 for receiving a disassembly tool 80 (see Figure 8). In contrast, the Applicants' claimed diagonal cut recesses 27 that are provided on the holding portions 21 and 22 serve to prevent reverse attachment of the

memory card 4 to the adapter 1. Accordingly, the recesses 64 do not correspond to the claimed diagonal cut recesses 27.

A flange 58 in Simmons engages the frame 14 to couple the top cover member 16 to the frame 14 (see column 41 lines 13 to 14). On the contrary, the Applicants' displacement control means 28 and 37 serve to prevent the hook portion 23 from being disengaged from the core 2. Accordingly, the claimed invention and the prior art have different parts that are to be coupled.

The Applicants respectfully submit that theclaimed adapter differs from the holder and casing of the applied references with respect to both construction and function. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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